

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9247
DIA
INFO USMISSION NATO
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USNMR SHAPE
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AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXENBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY ROME

S E C R E T NOFORN MADRID 1728

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO, MARR, SP
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SUBJECT: SPAIN AND NATO--SPANISH WAR COLLEGE (CESEDEN) STUDY

REF: MADRID 058 (DTG041816Z JAN 77)

1. THE REFERENCED TELGRAM REPORTED, SHORTLY AFTER THE CONCLU-
SION OF THE SPANISH WAR COLLEGE STUDY ON NATO, THAT THE STUDY
REACHED, ON BALANCE, A POSITIVE CONCLUSION WITH RESPECT TO

SPANISH MEMBERSHIP.

2. THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN FURTHER CONFIRMED IN THE INTERIM. FOR EXAMPLE, THE DIRECTOR OF STUDIES AT CESEDEN, IN INDICATING RECENTLY TO EMBOFF THAT A REPORT ON THE CESEDEN STUDY WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE DATT BY THE HIGH GENRAL STAFF, STATED AGAIN THAT THE STUDY'S CONCLUSION WAS QUITE POSITIVE. HE INDICATED THAT THE TWO MAIN SPANISH CONCERNS WITH REPSECT TO MEMBERSHIP HIGHLIGHTED IN THE REPORT WERE (A) FIRST AND FOREMOST, FAVORABLE RESOLUTION OF THE GIBRALTAR ISSUE, AND (B) SECOND, ENTERING THE ALLIANCE, IN SPIRIT AS WELL AS IN SUBSTANCE, AS A FULLY EQUAL MEMBER. HE DESCRIBED OTHER SPANISH CONCERNS AS QUESTIONS OF NEGOTIATION.

3. ON MARCH 7, THE DATT RECEIVED FROM THE HIGH GENERAL STAFF THE DOCUMENT IN QUESTION, ENTITLED "SPANISH MEMBERSHIP OR ASSOCIATION WITH NATO--A SUMMARY OF THE STUDY CARRIED OUT BY PARTICIPANTS IN THE 13TH MONOGRAPHIC COURSE OF CESEDEN (DECEMBER 1976)"-- A DOCUMENT DATED MARCH, 1977. WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER THIS DOCUMENT REPRESENTS A TRUE SUMMARY OF THE STUDY OR ONE PREPARED SPECIFICALLY FOR US CONSUMPTION, BUT WE INCLINE TOWARD THE LATTER POSSIBLITY AFTER DIGESTING THE CONTENTS.

4. HIGHLIGHTED IN THIS BRIEF SUMMARY ARE THE THEMES THAT SPANISH MEMBERSHIP WOULD BE EXTREMELY VALUABLE FOR THE ALLIANCE, INDEED THAT SPAIN IS "STRATEGICALLY IRREPLACEABLE" FOR THE ALLIANCE; THAT NOAT IS NOT WHAT IT USED TO BE; THAT SPAIN AS A NATO MEMBER MIGHT FIND THE ALLIANCE MORE INTERESTED IN USE OF HER TERRITORY, AIR SPACE, AND INSTALLATIONS THAN IN THE SPANISH

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CONTRIBUTION PER SE; THAT THE EXISTING FOREIGN MILITARY PRESENCE IN SPAIN MAKES SPAIN AN IMPORTANT NUCLEAR TARGET; THAT TO WIN OVER SPANISH PUBLIC OPINION THERE WOULD NEED TO BE "PRACTICAL, TANGIBLE BENEFITS" OVER AND ABOVE THOSE RELATED TO SPAIN'S MILITARY DEFENSE; BUT THAT THE BALANCES OF PLUSES AND MINUSES IN THE POLITICAL, MILITARY AND ECONOMIC FILEDS WERE NOT NOW DETERMINING SINCE THEY WOULD DEPEND ON THE COURSE OF NEGOTIATIONS. THE SUMMARY CONCLUDES ON THE NOTE THAT NOW, IN ANY EVENT, IS NOT MOMENT FOR THESE NEGOTIATIONS TO BEGIN, FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS, NOT THE LEAST OF WHICH IS THE FLUIDITY OF THE PRESENT SITUATION.

5. COMMENT: THIS IS HARDLY THE UNMISTAKABLY POSITIVE CONCLUSION THAT WE HAVE INFORMALLY BEEN GIVEN TO UNDERSTAND WAS REACHED BY THEY PARTICIPANTS IN THE STUDY. IT HAS SOMEWHAT MORE THE RING OF A STATEMNT IN PREPARATION FOR NEGOTIATIONS-- PERHPAS A CONFIRMATION OF SORTS THAT THE STUDY ITSELF DID REACH A FAVORABLE CONCLUSION.

6. FULLY TEXT WILL BE DISTRIBUTED BOTH BY IR (DIA) AND BY
AIRGRAM TO OTHER ADDRESSEES.EATON

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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